

## **ABSTRACT**

Substantially anhydrous compositions having a viscosity greater than 1000 centipoise are prepared by combining a polar solvent with a thickening agent selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid polymers and polyacrylamides. These compositions are particularly suited for topical use to deliver beneficial agents to the skin of a user. Being anhydrous, the compositions are particularly well suited to effectuate the delivery of beneficial agents that are unstable over time in aqueous systems.